

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete the first paragraph of the Background of the Invention beginning on Page 1, line 6, and insert the following two paragraphs therefore:

--It is known in that art that there are many compounds which can act as a disinfecting agent. For example, solutions of 70 - 85% (volume/volume) ethanol are commonly used as disinfectants. As is known in the art, there are two forms of ethanol generally available in North America: denatured ethanol, and potable alcohol. Both denatured and potable ethanols are used in the preparation of the solutions noted above. Denatured ethanol contains additives for the purpose of preventing or reducing abuse or consumption of the alcohol. Such additives may include aviation fuel, emetics, various organic solvents and mercury salts. Bitrex is an example of an additive that is commonly present in ethanol in varying amounts. For instance, bitrex is present in specially denatured alcohol grade-3 (SDAG-3) at 700 mg per 100 litres, and is present in specially denatured alcohol grade-6 (SDAG-6) at 1 g per 100 litres. Solutions of 70-85% ethanol are effective in inactivating most vegetative bacteria, fungi, and lipid containing viruses. However, ethanol is not effective against bacterial spores.

As noted above, disinfecting agents vary in their ability to kill different microorganisms. For example, some compounds may act as a bactericide only, other as a virucide only, and yet others as a fungicide only. Some compounds are known which may kill gram-positive bacteria, yet not be effective in killing gram-negative bacteria. Accordingly, a disinfectant that can effectively kill most, if not all microorganisms, may require a combination of known disinfecting agents with complementary activity in order to provide a wide spectrum disinfectant.--